

Our mission is to maximize learning for all students

# MAXEY Messenger



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Volume 13

November 28, 2007

Number 14

## **Important Upcoming Dates**

Thurs., Dec. 6: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus Concert for Parents (Multipurpose Room) 7:00 p.m.

Tues., Dec. 11: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Concert for Parents (Multipurpose Room) 7:00 p.m.

Thurs., Dec. 20: Orchestra Concert for Parents (Multipurpose Room) 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 24-Jan.2: No School -- WINTER BREAK

Mon., Jan. 7: PTO Executive Committee Meeting (Conference Room) 6:00 p.m.

PTO General Meeting/Open House/Tour (Multipurpose Room) 7:00 p.m.

## **Car Pool Lanes**

We seem to be having difficulty with the north side car pool lane during morning "drop off". Please be reminded that this car pool lane is reserved for commercial day care vehicles and LPS busses. Private cars are expected to use the west side car pool lane located in front of the school. Using the north lane creates an unsafe situation for students. The parking lot becomes congested and students walking to school on the sidewalk that crosses the parking lot entrance are difficult to see. I am concerned for these children's safety.

I am seeking parent help by volunteering as a parking lot monitor, since we have individuals who choose not to follow our requests about using the north lane. Please contact me if you are interested in helping our school to be safer for our children.

## **Spelling Software Pilot**

Kim Arslan, Maxey parent, has developed a software program to help students learn their spelling words. Parents of first graders may be involved with this pilot for their children. Although LPS cannot endorse any software, I encourage you to consider trying out this program. You may find specific information attached. Kim and her husband, Anthony, have worked very hard in developing a program that is easy to use and practical in helping student learn their spelling words better.

## **Nebraska State Department Student Achievement Results for 2007**

Nebraska State Department of Education "Stars" Report and the US Leave No Child Behind Report are available at the following web site: ([www.nde.state.ne.us](http://www.nde.state.ne.us)). The Maxey staff are very pleased with our student achievement results for 2007. Once again, great students, great parents and great teachers make a difference in student achievement.

## **Update on Construction**

We are progressing along. However, I believe it will be Winter Break before the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade pod is complete and available to move students into their new classrooms. I am unable to predict when the early childhood (kindergarten and Early Childhood Special Education Classrooms) will be complete.

## **School Directories of Maxey Families**

The School Directory is presently at the printer and should be distributed next Wednesday.

## **Lincoln Children's Zoo Passes**

These are available for purchase and our school receives \$5.00 for each pass purchased. The order form is included with the Mustang Matters newsletter.

## **Colder Weather on the Way**

It is time for winter weather to arrive. Please remember to write your child's name in her/his outer winter clothing.

## **Connect Ed Messages**

Make sure you update your contact information each time you have a change. You can either call the office at 436-1153 or email Melanie ([mschilo@lps.org](mailto:mschilo@lps.org)) or Nanci ([nwurm@lps.org](mailto:nwurm@lps.org)). This is important to have when sending out the Connect Ed messages over the phone/email, so that you are receiving all important information.

## **Coughs, Colds, etc...**

With the cold and flu season upon us, just a reminder about school policies with medications. School personnel can administer medication to a student with a doctor's written prescription and signed medication consent form by parent/guardian. Over the counter medicine can be given with a written order from the doctor and also an LPS medication consent form signed by the parent/guardian. The form can be found on the LPS.org website or in our health office. Medication must be in the prescription container with a label stating the student's name, physician's name and direction for administering the medication. Over the counter cough drops should be left at the health office with an LPS medication consent form signed by parent/guardian. If there are any questions, please call the Maxey Health Office at 436-1262.

## **THE SPIRIT OF GIVING PROGRAM**

As the holiday season looms around the corner, we are once again looking for families who would like to make the holidays a little more joyful for a less fortunate family. More importantly, you can share with your kids the values, which are corner stones of all beliefs, of caring and giving to those who are in need.

We are looking for Maxey families that are willing to share their Spirit of Giving with a family from Hartley, Clinton and Elliot Elementary schools. Your family would buy a gift for each member of the family and buy a special dinner for the family. Your family can share the fun of shopping for the family and in most cases you can even meet the family and deliver your gifts. Of course we will also deliver your gift for you if you wish remain anonymous.

Last year the schools had nearly 100 families that requested help. Unfortunately, that was a goal we could not meet. This year we are trying to get as many Maxey families as possible, individually or in groups, to commit to helping a family and then have the schools offer assistance to the number of families for which we have commitments. If you would like to help, we would like to hear from you by November 26 so that there is enough time to contact the school, contact the family, obtain a wish list, allow time to shop and deliver the gifts.

If you cannot support an entire family the schools can also use socks, underwear, sweat clothes, coats, gloves, and gift cards (especially to shoe stores), which they use as emergency clothes for kids that come to school dressed in ragged clothes or clothes that do not fit. Classroom supplies are also welcome. Last year we received a generous contribution of hundreds of pounds of Smart Chicken from the Monson family. So as you can see virtually any contribution is welcome and greatly appreciated.

The families at Hartley, Clinton and Elliot Elementary schools are facing more challenging times than ever this year. The increased cost of food, gas, electricity and natural gas is cutting deeply into the already tight budgets of the families at these schools. As you know these schools have a very high percentage of their families who receive 100% subsidized school meals and have 50-75 families participating in the Backpack Program that supplies food to the recipient so they have food to eat over the weekend. Without our help these families will likely have little or nothing to share during the holiday break.

Please consider participating in the Spirit of Giving program. It has been a heart warming and positive experience for our family, and is now a Wilken family tradition that our kids look forward to.

Any one that that has questions or would like to help should contact Doug or Jody Wilken at 489-0299 or at Cacey\_Chance@msn.com, or Holly or Sean Leach at 328-9331 or at hleach@neb.rr.com. Remember, the earlier that you commit to helping a family the earlier we can get you a wish list from the family.

## **Monday, January 7 PTO Meeting**

On Monday, January 7, PTO will host an open house for Maxey parents and patrons to visit our new construction areas at our school site. The meeting will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. where we will have a brief business meeting until 7:15 p.m. The tour and open house will begin no later than 7:15 p.m. Refreshments will be served.